

Contents.

LETTER IV.

An the plea, in behalf of the dialect ii question, that it is
swer formed from the 5 of the Bible—Description of the
manner in which it is so formed—
Several kinds of this bad writing specified
f the dialect felt by men of intellectual
>f employing biblical language very different from simple
quotation— utility with which brief forms of words, whether
sentences or single

LETTER V.

Modern literature intended principally to be animadverted on—
Brief notice of
the ancient—Heathen theology, metaphysics, and morality—
Harmlessness of
the two former; deceptiveness of the last—But the chief
influence is from so
much of the history as may be called Biography, and from the
Poetry—Homer
—Manner in which the interest he excites is hostile to the spirit
of the Christian
religion—Virgil.....p.
20;

LETTER VI.

Lucan — Influence of the moral sublimity of his heroes. —
Plutarch —
Historians—Antichristian effect of admiring the moral greatness
of the eminent
heathens—Points of essential difference between excellence
according to
Christian principles, and the most elevated excellence of the
Heathens—An
unqualified complacency in the latter produces an alienation of
affection and
admiration from the formerp.
212

LETTER VII

When a communication, declaring the true theory of both
religion and morals,
was admitted as coming from heaven, it was reasonable to
expect that from the
time of this revelation to the end of the world, all by whom it was
so admitted
would be religiously careful to maintain, in whatever they
taught on subjects
within its cognizance, a systematic andpunctilious conformity to
its principles—
Absurdity, impiety, and pernicious effect, of disregarding
this sovereign claim to
conformity—The greatest number of our fine writers have
incurred this guilt,
and done this mischief—They are antichnstian, in the first place,
by omission;
they exclude from their moral sentiments the modifying
interference of the
Christian principles—Extended illustration of the fact, and of
its conse-
quences „„„>.....p. ' ,
231